Serial No.: 09/922,671

an interconnect pattern which is electrically isolated from said contact hole and said interconnect and which exists between said N-channel transistor and said P-channel transistor,

wherein said interconnect pattern is formed in an uppermost interconnect layer of said CMOS basic cell.

- 23. (Amended) The CMOS basic cell of Claim 22, wherein said interconnect pattern extending either along a perpendicular direction or along a horizontal direction relative to a boundary between said N-channel transistor and said P-channel transistor.
- 26. (Amended) The CMOS basic cell of any one of Claims 22 to 25, wherein two or more said CMOS basic cells are electrically connected by a higher interconnect pattern located in a layer that is higher than said interconnect pattern.
- 27. (Amended) The CMOS basic cell according to Claim 26, wherein said higher interconnect pattern is located in a region between said P-channel transistors and said N-channel transistors except the both ends of said interconnect pattern, and

wherein said interconnect pattern which intersects said higher interconnect pattern is electrically connected with said higher interconnect pattern, said interconnect